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# News Release

## **HPD K-9 Will Be Retiring**

**March 30, 2011**

The Harrisonburg Police Department will soon be retiring an officer with a loud bark and a hard bite.

K-9 Nikki, a Belgian Malinois, will patrol for the last time on Saturday, April 2. After that shift, he will retire and no longer be in service as a police canine with HPD.

Although minor, Nikki has suffered from some health problems and in canine years he is at the age of retirement.

In 2004, Nikki began patrolling with Officer Shawn Morris and the two have been partners ever since. Nikki came from Holland and is certified with the Virginia Police Canine Association in patrol work and narcotic detection.

Throughout his career, Nikki has worked to detect and seize the following amounts of narcotics:

- 125 grams of heroin
- 1,192 grams of methamphetamine
- 10,879 grams of marijuana
- 437 grams of cocaine/crack.

Nikki has also responded on 5,423 calls for service during his career.

“Nikki has had an incredible career and proven to be a huge asset to the Department and this community,” said Sergeant Rod Pollard, K-9 Unit Supervisor.

After his last patrol, Nikki will relax and continue living with his handler.

In the coming weeks, Officer Morris will be acquainted with a new canine and they will begin training to patrol for HPD.